

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 22-51 remain pending in this application. Based on the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 22, 23, and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0093134 ("Bradley"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, since the subject matter that the Examiner cited in Bradley as anticipating the claims was derived from co-inventor Kerry Bradley, as evidenced in the attached Declaration of Kerry Bradley Under 35 U.S.C. §1.132.

Thus, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2, 22, 23, and 26 are not anticipated by Bradley, and as such, respectfully request withdrawal of the §102 rejection of these claims.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 27-33 and 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103), as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,738,668 ("Mouchawar") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,444,195 ("Gold"). Without acquiescence that Mouchawar qualifies as a §102(e) prior art reference, and without prejudice to antedate this reference should it become necessary, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, since no proper combination of Mouchawar and Gold discloses, teaches, or suggests the combination of elements required by these claims, as amended.

In particular, independent claim 27 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 34. Notably, while the limitations that were previously incorporated into

claim 27 were cancelled and incorporated instead into claim 34, it is believed that amended claim 27 is still patentable over the combination of Mouchawar and Gold. That is, claim 34, which was found to recite patentable subject matter in the previous office action, dated March 21, 2007, was rewritten as independent claim 27.

Thus, Applicant submits that independent claim 27, as well as the claims depending therefrom (claims 28, 29, 31-33, and 35), are not obvious over the combination of Mouchawar and Gold, and as such, respectfully requests withdrawal of the §103 rejection of these claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant graciously acknowledges the allowance of claims 36-51. While Applicant graciously acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claim 25 recited patentable subject matter, it has not been rewritten to include the limitations of independent claim 1, since it is believed that claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art. Objected to claim 34 has been substantially rewritten as claim 27, as discussed above.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments

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regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (949) 724-1849.

Respectfully submitted,

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